which nearly Rs. 60,000/- crore have already been spent;

(b) if so, the names of these projects and the money spent on each of them so far;

(c) whether these projects are being discontinued due to paucity of funds;

(d) if so, whether any other resource mobilisation avenues are likely to be explored to complete these projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir. In February 1996 Government accepted, in principle, the suggestions of the Group of Ministers on specific measures to cut delays in implementation of projects. One of the suggestions relates to weeding out/transferring to joint/private sector of the projects which are making slow progress in view of the resource crunch. The criteria suggested by the Group of Ministers and accepted by the Government are that the projects where 60% of gestation period is over but expenditure incurred is 5% or less of the total cost should be considered for weeding out/transferring to joint/private sector keeping in view the resource crunch and other relevent factors such as the strategic importance, constraints in land acquisition, change in government policies/market conditions, backward and forward linkage, etc. The concerned administrative ministries would review the projects under their jurisdiction before the final decision is taken by the government. No project has been identified so far under the decision of February, 1996.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Income Tax Dues against Indian/Foreign Traders

3585. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of income-tax outstanding against Indian/Foreign businessmen and industrialists during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for accumulation of the outstanding dues; and

(c) the steps being taken to make expeditious recovery of the same?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : a) Separate details of income-tax outstanding in the cases of Indian/foreign businessmen and industrialists are not maintained. However, the total outstanding demand as a whole is as under :—

Financial Year	Corporation tax outstanding	Income-tax outstanding
	(Rupees in crores)	
1994-95	9890.13	12808.52
1995-96 (Provisional)	12445.16	16532.32

(b) The following are generally the reasons for the outstanding demand :—

i) Demands that have not become due for payment at the end of year.

ii) Demands claimed to have been paid out pending verification.

iii) Demands stayed by Courts, Settlement Commission, Tribunal and I.T. Authorities.

iv) Demands for which instalments have been granted.

(c) Various actions prescribed under the Income-tax Act, e.g. attachment of movable and immovable properties of defaulters, prosecution, imposition of penalties, detention in prison, appointment of receiver for management of defaulter's properties are taken for recovery of the outstanding demand. Besides, various steps are taken to effect recovery of demand including grant of instalments and where issues are locked up in appeal, appellate authorities are requested to dispose of the appeals expeditiously.

In the cases of arrears of tax due from Notified persons involved in security scam, as per provisions of the Special Court Act all properties, both movable and immovable, belonging to the Notified Person stand attached simultaneously with the issue of the Notification. Therefore, in respect of all demands that have since become arrears, the department has filed applications with the Special Court for issue of directions to the Custodian to release funds against the tax dues.

[Translation]

National Institute of Fashion Technology

3586. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a branch of the National Institute of Fashion Technology in Gujarat particularly in the tribal areas of the State during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Government has already set up a branch of the National Institute of Fashion Technology at Gandhinagar in Gujarat with the cooperation of the State Government. At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to set up any other branch in Gujarat in any area including tribal areas.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Tax Holiday to Backward Areas

3587. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to notify tax holiday for the backward areas in the advanced states; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issue of identifying backward districts for the purposes of providing tax holiday under section 80IA was referred to a Study Group constituted in the Ministry of Finance. The report submitted by the study group constituted in this regard was reviewed by another group. The review group has submitted its report which is under consideration of the Government.

Profit/Loss Account of North and South Malabar Grameen Banks

3588. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of profits earned or loss suffered by North Malabar Grameen Bank and South Malabar Grameen Bank during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively;

(b) the number of branches of each of these Banks functioning as on date; and

(c) the details of expansion plan or for opening of new Branches of these banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that profits earned by North Malabar Gramin Bank and South Malabar Gramin Bank during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 were as follows :—

(Rs. lakhs)

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
i) North Malabar Gramin Bank	125.31	210.50	52.00
ii) South Malabar Gramin Bank	52.44	215.46	352.00

(b) As reported by NABARD, the number of branches of North Malabar Gramin Bank and South Malabar Gramin Bank was 122 and 147 respectively as on 31.3.1996.

(c) NABARD has further reported that North Malabar Gramin Bank as proposed to extend its area of operation to districts of Ernakulam and Kottayam. It has also proposed to open a branch at Mattanoor.

NABARD has reported that South Malabar Gramin Bank has been recently permitted to open a branch at Badagara. It has proposed to open branches at Kuttiady and Kallachi in Kozikode district. The RRB has also proposed to extend its area of operation to Pallakkad and Thrissur districts.

Coal Potentials in Maharashtra

3589. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the established coal potential in new coal mines of Maharashtra as per survey conducted by the Government agency,

(b) whether the huge coal reserves in Maharashtra still remain unexploited;

(c) if so, the details of investment made for exploitation of coal reserves by opening of new mines during the last three years and results achieved;

(d) the details of the new investment plans finalised/cleared for opening up new coal mines in Maharashtra during the current financial year;

(e) whether the Government have received any proposal from Maharashtra State Electricity Board and other various industrial projects for opening of new coal mines in the State for their own captive requirements;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) (a) As per information furnished by Geological Survey of India (GSI), the total geological coal reserves in the different coalfields of Maharashtra upto a depth of 600 metres have been assessed as 6636 million tonnes as on 1.1.1996.

(b) Appropriate steps have been initiated for exploitation of coal in Maharashtra depending on techno-economic feasibility.

(c) During the last three years, steps have been taken for opening/developing twelve new coal projects